WHEREAS: This year marks the 28th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the 73rd Anniversary of the National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS: The U.S. Department of Labor has announced the 2018 theme for Disability Employment Awareness Month as “America’s Workforce: Empowering All”, and

WHEREAS: Individuals with disabilities are proving themselves as valuable and productive contributors and taxpayers in the workforce; and

WHEREAS: Employers are crucial in providing opportunities for work experience, career paths, and the dignity that comes through labor; and

WHEREAS: To benefit Minnesota’s economy and its competitiveness in the global marketplace, the State of Minnesota must value the contributions of all people, including those with disabilities; and

WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota, in accordance with Minnesota’s Olmstead Plan, is committed to providing Minnesotans with disabilities a continuum of work options that best meet individual needs and choices in a person-centered manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2018 as:

**DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH**

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 18th day of September.

[Signature]

GOVERNOR

[Signature]

SECRETARY OF STATE